

CGBD 2013 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Lied Lodge and Conference Center
Nebraska City, NE

"Winning Starts Here: Understanding the Conservation, Agriculture, and Energy Nexus"

In a year that's drier than any Dust Bowl year, in a state perched above a mythic, threatened aquifer, bulldozers growl out new levees to forestall another "hundred-year" Missouri River flood. Land sells for \$12,000 an acre and soybeans and corn control the horizon. What tallgrass prairie remains is curated like a museum. But the wind that used to drive the sodbusters crazy is now an asset with limitless potential. And some city leaders forecast a cleaner, greener, renewable future even as ranchers and families lead a new kind of movement—protecting place to the beat of a native drum circle and the rhythm of a cowboy's poem.

Worldwide, the needs and impacts of biodiversity, agriculture, and energy are nested and intertwined. Living lands and sacred soil, running rivers and oceans opulent, demand the best from science, tradition and us. We're using the red heart of the heartland to explore what's working and what philanthropy can do in our globalized, hyper-linked world. Your worldview may change from a spot that until now you've only flown over.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

6:00-9:00pm Dinner

Timber Dining Room

6:00-9:00pm CGBD Board of Directors Meeting

Timber Dining Room/Marcotte Room

6:00-9:00pm Meeting Registration

Lower Lobby-be sure to pick up your name badge as it serves as your "meal ticket" throughout the meeting.

MONDAY, JUNE 17

7:00-8:30am Breakfast

Timber Dining Room

8:00-11:30am CGBD Board of Directors Meeting

Marcotte Room

9:00am-6:00pm Registration

Lower Lobby-be sure to pick up your name badge as it serves as your "meal ticket" throughout the meeting.

9:00am-12:00pm CGBD Academies-Part 1

Concurrent Sessions

Movement Building as a Philanthropic Strategy

West Assembly Room

From marriage equality to the rise of the conservative right, we have witnessed the power of carefully crafted movements that change public attitudes and build political power to advance their cause. Successful movements understand where they are starting from and have a clear goal of what they want to attain. Polling and behavioral science are helping to guide movements on how best to engage and mobilize citizens—from the use of values-based messaging to fueling innovation in campaign outreach. Successful movements are also getting smart about using available data to target and maximize the return on campaign activities.

Freedom to Marry is perhaps the best current case study in effective movement building in America, and has important lessons for foundations and the environmental movement. Freedom to Marry overcame decades of setbacks and defeat to build a movement that secured several notable campaign victories for marriage equality in 2012. This case study will review how they conducted research to understand past losses and develop new strategies, elevated marriage equality as a priority for the LGBT community, and went on the offensive employing innovative campaign tactics to earn impressive new levels of public and political support.

The Freedom to Marry case study will be followed with a “fish bowl” conversation with environmental movement builders/observers from the U.S. and Canada to help us better understand the lessons to be gleaned from Freedom to Marry by environmental funders and nonprofits. Representatives from Grist in the U.S. and Dogwood Initiative in Canada will interact with the Freedom to Marry staff in this segment. Afterwards, there will be plenty of time for an open discussion and questions from funders for all of the academy participants.

Emma Gilchrist, Communications Director, Dogwood Initiative
David Roberts, Senior Staff Writer, Grist.org
Thalia Zepatos, Director of Public Engagement, Freedom to Marry

Moderators: John Daly, Campion Foundation and Wendy Vanasselt, Wilburforce Foundation

It's Ours: Managing the Commons Better

Terrace Room

As funders, what are the best approaches and tools we can use to help communities and decision-makers manage their shared “commons” resources—i.e., their forests, watersheds, water supply, and fisheries? During the past few decades, social scientists have begun to identify a suite of conditions or principles that foster success in community-based natural resource management. This academy will explore how community-based natural resource management can address the longstanding “tragedy of the commons” and top-down management frameworks to better protect the resilience of the systems in which we work. Participants can expect to learn about the “broad design principles that characterize robust self-organizing natural resource governance systems”¹ through an interactive mock engagement activity and empirical examples from leading field practitioners.

Participants will be asked in advance to read a short case study and respond to a questionnaire that will be used to shape an interactive mock engagement activity

¹ Ostrom, Elinor. “Coping with Tragedies of the Commons.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 1999. 2:493-535, 495.

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where participants will work together to build a community-based decision-making framework. The session will provide participants with a first-hand insight into how common pool resource design principles can lead to integrated decision-making processes that align local conservation goals with environmentally sound development. Participants will learn from practitioners as they reflect on applying design principles in the field and present practical tools for analyzing variables that make common property arrangements successful.

Arun Agrawal, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan
Lida Pet Soede, WWF Coral Triangle Programme

Moderators: Maureen Geesey, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and Alan Holt,
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation

12:00-1:30pm

Lunch

Timber Dining Room

1:30-4:30pm

CGBD Academies-Part 2

Concurrent Sessions

**Climate of Change – 2013: Explorations in the Evolving Field
of Climate Adaptation Science, Practice and Policy**

West Assembly Room

This academy will illuminate recent developments in the field of Climate Change Adaptation, a dynamic field of practice that centers on the increasingly urgent need to reduce vulnerabilities and build adaptive capacity of natural and human systems as climate change progresses. Practical experience in place-based initiatives has illuminated a set of core elements requisite for successful adaptive outcomes, including the need for adaptation efforts to be grounded in local experience, be mainstreamed into existing decision-making venues, tap the knowledge available in multiple sectors of society, recognize interdependencies between the built and natural environments, and apply adaptive management concepts.

Featured speakers and funder colleagues will share stories and engage in a facilitated interactive discussion focusing on the maturation of this dynamic field. Participants will be asked in advance to respond to a short survey to extract their questions about climate adaptation. These will be used to shape the facilitated discussion as well as focus panelists' presentations on issues of importance to participants. Members can expect to learn about the central tenets of adaptation through examples of philanthropic strategies and empirical lessons from place-based community resilience and natural system adaptation initiatives in various contexts.

Ben Alexander, Associate Director, Headwaters Economics
Vicki Arroyo, Executive Director, Georgetown Climate Center of Georgetown University
Law Center
Bruce Stein, Director, Climate Change Adaptation, National Wildlife Federation

Moderators: Andrew Bowman, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; Denise Joines,
Wilburforce Foundation and John Nordgren, Kresge Foundation

Tackling Wicked Problems, Making Collective Impact

Terrace Room

The urgency of the times demands that philanthropy embrace new methods of operating. To tackle the many “wicked problems” that challenge the environment, innovative grant making tactics—ones that take a systemic approach to understanding complex problems and apply a collective strategy to address them—are needed to move us toward the more equitable, prosperous and sustainable world to which we aspire. Many foundations are involved in such collaborations that may include non-funder partners and encompass aligned and/or pooled grant making. The workshop will extract the lessons learned from three collaborations including tactics on communicating with trustees about the efficacy of joining forces and combining resources to achieve ambitious outcomes. The structure will encourage participants to share their experiences, however effective or challenging, on efforts to reach collective impact.

Academy participants will hear from Ruth Rominger, who is an expert on systems thinking and network design and well versed on concepts outlined in the article “Embracing Emergence: How Collective Impact Addresses Complexity” (Kania and Kramer, 2013), for an overview of this theory of change and its practical application. In addition, we’ll hear from three funder colleagues about their on-the-ground experience with “Collective Impact”. Jennie Curtis, Garfield Foundation, will discuss the work of RE-AMP, a network of 150 non-profits and 15 foundation members coordinating across 8 Midwestern states to progress toward an 80% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2050. Verna Harrison, Campbell Foundation, will highlight the work of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network’s multi-stakeholder Alternative Uses of Manure Initiative that includes 10 funders partnering with farmers, scientists, government representatives and industry to accelerate best technology for livestock operations that improve water quality, generate energy, and contribute to farm sustainability. Bruce Lourie, Ivey Foundation, will focus on the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, which engages 7 environmental organizations, 5 foundations and 21 Canadian forest product companies to manage 76 million hectares of public forest crossing provinces from British Columbia to Newfoundland.

Jennie Curtis, Executive Director, Garfield Foundation
Verna Harrison, Executive Director, Keith Campbell Foundation
Bruce Lourie, President, Ivey Foundation
Ruth Rominger, Principal, Rominger Consulting

6:00-6:30pm

Reception

Steinhart Lodge (to the left and across the street from the main lodge)

6:30-7:30pm

Welcome: Alan Holt, Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, Lynn Lohr, CGBD and John Rosenow, Arbor Day Foundation

Keynote: Lance Morgan—“An Emerging Tribal Experience: Thoughts on Sustainability”

Steinhart Lodge (to the left and across the street from the main lodge)

Lance Morgan is President and Chief Executive Officer of Ho-Chunk, Inc., the economic development corporation for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Since the corporation’s launch in 1994, he has directed the development of thirty subsidiaries with operations throughout the United States and in five foreign countries, bringing increased economic stability and more sustainable development to his

community. Morgan is a research affiliate with the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development; an Honoring Nations High Honors recipient in 2000 and recipient of the Innovations in American Government Award in 2001, both presented by Harvard Kennedy School of Business. He has served as an economic policy consultant for the U.S. Department of the Interior and was appointed to the Consumer Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C. in 2006. In 2010, the SBA named Morgan Regional Minority Small Business Person of the Year. In 2011 the White House and President Obama selected him as a Champion of Change honoree. He is an adjunct professor at several universities around the country. Morgan is a member of the American Bar Association, the Minnesota Bar Association, and the Nebraska Bar Association. Morgan holds a B.S. in Economics from the University of Nebraska and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. He is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

7:30-9:00pm

Dinner

Steinhart Lodge (to the left and across the street from the main lodge)

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

7:00-8:30am

Breakfast

Timber Dining Room

8:30-10:00am

On Site/Close-In Field Trips:

- Discovery Ride
meet in the main lobby
- Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center
meet in the main lobby

10:30-12:00pm

The Future of Bio-fuels?

West Assembly Room

Bio-fuels are big—big economic benefits to farming communities, big public investments. Bigger in the criticisms coming from environmentalists and the "food vs. fuel" folks . . . and biggest of all in the campaign the oil industry is waging to sow confusion in the public space and totally discredit bio-fuels as a viable energy source. A new study commissioned by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation looks at the promise and problems of bio-fuels. A dialogue between **Peter Riggs**, Packard Foundation, and, **Sarah Bittleman**, former senior advisor to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and now Agricultural Counselor to the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will explore high priority interventions for philanthropy.

12:00-1:00pm

Lunch

Timber Dining Room

1:30-4:00pm

Farm-Based Renewables: Transforming Energy and Economy in Rural Communities

West Assembly Room

Living at the crossing point for the controversial Keystone tar sands pipeline from Alberta to Texas, Nebraskans have found themselves in the crosshairs of a furious continental debate over dirty fossil fuel energy use. In part, because of the concerns raised by the pipeline fight, some communities in Nebraska have begun taking baby steps towards a new energy future. As they do so, they are taking advantage of lessons

learned on energy policy and economic development in other agricultural regions of the world. In this session, Chuck Hassebrook from the Center for Rural Affairs, a national organization working for rural Americans since 1973, will start us off with a tour of the energy history and landscape in rural Nebraska and neighboring states. Jane Kleeb from Bold Nebraska will then describe the very public fight in Nebraska over the Keystone Pipeline and the impact this fight is having on the thinking of Nebraskans about their energy choices. Richard Hoppe of the Lincoln, Nebraska Mayor's Office, will describe his and neighboring communities' efforts to diversify their energy mix away from coal through the use of a policy instrument imported from Europe and Canada. Deborah Doncaster will describe the importance of working with farmers in Ontario to support North America's most progressive green energy legislation and discuss the way farmers have been able to benefit from green energy despite growing opposition. Finally, Toby Couture will describe the astonishing movement in Germany, again led by farmers, to shift German energy production away from utility-generated coal fired power to rural community-based renewable energy. A few successes do not a full transformation make, but these stories do point American energy advocates and foundation supporters to some potential strategic pathways forward on energy and community development.

Keynote: Setting the Context

Chuck Hassebrook, Executive Director, Center for Rural Affairs

Panel Discussion

Toby Couture, Director of Renewable Energy, IFOK GmbH, Berlin

Deborah Doncaster, Executive Director, Community Power Fund, Ontario

Richard Hoppe, Mayor's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska

Jane Kleeb, Executive Director, Bold Nebraska

Moderator: Michael Northrop, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

4:30-6:00pm

Program Meetings

West Assembly Room

Climate and Energy; Conservation Science and Land & Freshwater; Marine Conservation and International Connections

6:30-9:00pm

Dinner with Music by the Barry Boyce Band

Morton Barn

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

6:30-7:30am

Birdwalk with Local Naturalists Laurence Falk and Susan Quinn

meet in the main lobby

7:00-8:30am

Breakfast Conversations

Timber Dining Room

9:00-12:00pm

Agro-ecology Meets Conservation Biology

West Assembly Room

This session is about understanding how much we can accomplish when folks concerned about agriculture and folks concerned about biodiversity work together. Three people from the cutting edge of food systems ecology will help CGBD

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members explore these issues with stories grounded in real places here in the U.S. and abroad. Stacy Philpott will open the session with a look at the science connection between agro-ecology and conservation biology. Rancher, conservationist and co-founder of Grass Fed Beef, LLC, Allen R. Williams will examine how agricultural practices in the U.S. Heartland can improve the health of the Gulf of Mexico. Rebecca Nelson will describe the needed transition from a modern agriculture based on optimized simplicity to a post-modern agriculture based on optimized complexity. She will discuss how agroecological principles can benefit smallholder farming in developing countries as well as industrial farms, with corollary benefits to the environment. This session is not about cataloging how terrible industrial agriculture is; it's about great ideas that are emerging to create healthy food systems for the planet.

Rebecca Nelson, Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology, Cornell University and Scientific Director for The McKnight Foundation's Collaborative Crop Research Program

Stacy Philpott, Alfred & Ruth Heller Chair in Agro-ecology, Environmental Studies Department, UC Santa Cruz

Allen R. Williams, President & Founder, Grass Fed Beef, LLC, Rancher and Conservationist

Moderators: Jane Maland Cady, McKnight Foundation and Ken Wilson, The Christensen Fund

12:00-1:00pm Lunch Conversations

Timber Dining Room

1:00-5:00pm Field Trips

meet in the main lobby

- Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, 800 acre tallgrass reserve
- Farmer Panel at Jim Bender Farm, Weeping Water. Jim is author of Future Harvest, Pesticide Free Farming, Univ. of Nebraska Press
- Lower Hamburg Bend Conservation Area of the Missouri River

6:00-6:45pm CGBD Members' Annual Business Meeting

West Assembly Room

Reports from Board, program co-chairs, and staff

7:00-9:00pm Dinner on the Hazelnut Lawn

With the Writers & Musicians of Bold Nebraska, including Mary Pipher, author of *The Green Boat*, Ben Gotschall, author of *Where It Happened*, and musicians Marty Steinhausen & Michael Semrad, aka The Red Rebel Orchestra.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

7:00-8:00am Breakfast Conversations

Timber Dining Room

8:00-11:00am So, a Prairie Chicken, a Soybean Farmer, and a Fracking Crew Go Into This Bar . . . Can Energy and Food Security Strategies Save Biodiversity?

West Assembly Room

Across the planet, organizations dedicated to biodiversity or ecosystem conservation are finding the potential for major progress in partnerships with agriculture, fisheries, and energy development. This session looks at the promise and perils of such partnerships, which appear to many to be one of the few ways to spark conservation results “at the scale of the threats.” Join three innovators in this space in a lively discussion to explore institutional, policy and market tools for saving ecosystems. Andy Sharpless of Oceana will describe that organization’s “Save the Oceans/Feed the World” strategy, and how it departs from the traditional focus of marine biodiversity funders. David Festa joins us to explain the Environmental Defense Fund’s experience with Habitat Credit Trading, and share ideas on its potential to engage landowners and energy companies in proactive habitat conservation at scales large enough to recover imperiled species. Setting out to shut down carbon emissions from tropical deforestation, the funder partners of the Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA) find themselves working with governments of Indonesia, Brazil, and Mesoamerica on “low-carbon development pathways” that feed people and meet energy needs. Peter Riggs, former member of the CLUA funders’ leadership team joins us. In proud CGBD fashion, this session should throw a few sparks.

Closing Keynote

Dr. Jonathan Foley will moderate the session, and will deliver the closing keynote for our CGBD Annual Meeting. Dr. Foley is the director of the Institute on the Environment (IonE) at the University of Minnesota. His work focuses on the sustainability of our civilization and the global environment. He is a leading thinker on the intersections of global food security, climate change, and global land use patterns, and on the choices we have for feeding and energizing the world without destroying it. This work has led him to be a regular advisor to large corporations, NGOs and governments around the world. Jonathan is also an innovative communicator (witness www.ensia.com, his Institute’s new online magazine), and is actively reaching out to change-makers across all sectors to put the University’s best ideas into action.

David Festa, Vice President, West Coast Operations, Environmental Defense Fund
Jonathan Foley, Director, Institute on the Environment, University of Minnesota
Peter Riggs, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Andrew Sharpless, Chief Executive Officer, Oceana

11:00am

Box Lunch To Go & Goodbye

Important note: CGBD’s Annual Meeting is open to funders and invited guests only. We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and engaging gathering. All attendees are encouraged to debate and provide collaborative opportunities. This meeting, and all CGBD meetings and calls, unless otherwise noted, are off the record regarding media. Please refrain from fundraising and respect the media policy. This policy is intended to protect meeting participants and to encourage open dialogue during the meeting.